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The Rural District Council of Wath.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

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Metcalfe & Harper, Printers, North Street,  
RIPON.



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# ANNUAL REPORT.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council of  
Wath.

Gentlemen,

I have again the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1937, for the area of the Rural District Council of Wath.

## GENERAL PHYSICAL CHARACTERS.

This district lies in the extreme south west corner of the North Riding and adjoins the West Riding.

It is a purely agricultural one and is thinly populated. It forms the watershed between the rivers Swale and Ure. There are very few water courses. The sea levels run from 60 to 100 feet.

Agriculture is the sole industry upon which the inhabitants are dependant for their livelihood.

The large Royal Air Force Aerodrome in the Township of Dishforth and within the area of this Council developed further by the end of the year.

Numerous houses for the use of the Military Staff were erected at the Aerodrome.

The absorbtion of skilled and unskilled workers in the large bulding operations of these large military undertakings removed all unemployment and its consequent distress.

The agriculturists in consequence experienced inconvenience by the consequent lack of workers for their industry.

There are a few minor industrial undertakings chiefly of a semi-agricultural nature.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	17007
Population (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	2018
do	1936 Registrar-General's Estimate of					
resident population	...	...	...	...	...	2446
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	539
Number of separate occupiers, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	542
Rateable Value of District, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	£9864
Sum represented by a penny rate, 1936	£34 8s. 7d.					



Inhabitants are nearly all engaged in agriculture.

A few work in the adjoining towns' industries.

The Sandstone Quarries at Rainton were not worked.

There were no occupations of an injurious influence on the public health.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS.

Live Births :—					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	16	21	37
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
Total					—	—	—
					19	25	44

### Still Births :—

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
					—	—	—

Live Birth Rate, 1937—17.9  
do England and Wales, 1937, 14.9  
per 1000 of the estimated population.

Still Birth Rate, 1937—0.43  
do England and Wales, 1937—0.60  
per 1000 total (live and still) births.

### DEATHS.

The deaths in 1937 numbered 25. This is equal to a crude annual Death Rate of 10.2 per 1000 of the estimated population.

The comparability factor (0.90) supplied by the Registrar-General for correcting the foregoing, enables one to give the True or Adjusted Death Rate of 9.3.

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths (all causes)	...	...	...	...	16	9	25
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	Nil

Crude Death Rate, 1937—10.2.                      1936—8.3  
 Adjusted Death Rate, 1937—9.3                      1936—7.4.  
 Death Rate, England and Wales, 1937—12.4  
 Per 1000 of the estimated population.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1000 live births	... ..	68
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births		68
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births		Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	... ..	0.40
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ..	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... ..	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... ..	0.80

### DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

Puerperal Sepsis	... ..	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	... ..	Nil

No woman died or in consequence of childbirth.

No excessive or unusual mortality was observed throughout the year.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

#### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

T. Carter Mitchell, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Topcliffe, Thirsk.  
 Telephone : Topcliffe 230.

#### SANITARY INSPECTOR AND MEAT INSPECTOR.

William Watson, Cert.R.S.Inst., North End, Northallerton  
 Telephone : Northallerton 164.

The above two are part time Officers.

Hospitals provided by this Council.

#### A. FEVER :—

(a) The Council's Joint Isolation Hospital for Fevers and Diphtheria.

#### B. SMALL POX :—

The Council's Joint Small Pox Hospital.

Both the Council's Fever and Small Pox Hospitals are situated at Ripon, about one mile outside the Council's area, and are jointly held by this Council, Ripon City Corporation and Ripon and Pateley Bridge Rural Council.

The Small Pox Hospital is at Lark Hill, Ripon.

There has been ample accommodation in the Council's Fever and Small Pox Hospitals for years past.

C. TUBERCULOSIS :—

The N.R. County Council provide clinical and sanatorium treatment for all these cases.

D. MATERNITY :—

- (a) Ripon Maternity Home.
- (b) Harrogate General Hospital.

E. CHILDREN :—

- (a) Ripon and District Hospital.
- (b) Harrogate General Hospital.

F. OTHER :—

All the neighbouring general Hospitals readily and promptly admit all medical and surgical cases, when application is made to them.

There is no Institutional Provision made by the Council for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area, beyond those Hospitals specified above. In the past it has been an easy task to deal with any of the above classification of cases arising, with the present available Institutions, as the area is such a thinly and scattered one.

Orthopaedic cases are treated at the N.R.C.C.'s clinic at Northallerton.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) For INFECTIOUS CASES. The Council's Joint Motor Ambulance for all cases of infection. It is kept at Ripon.
- (b) NON-INFECTIOUS CASES AND ACCIDENTS. A St. John's Brigade motor ambulance is now stationed at Ripon for sole use of these cases. It gives prompt and efficient service.
- (c) Maternity Cases are conveyed by the (b) ambulance.



## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

- (a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres ... Nil
- (b) Day Nurseries, School Clinics ... ... Nil
- (c) Tuberculosis Dispensary, Northallerton, N.R.C.C.
- (d) Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease—York and Leeds.

(a) and (b). Owing to a thinly and scattered population in the area, it is considered by the Council not necessary to provide these.

- (c) Provided by the County Council at the Rutson Hospital, at Northallerton. Regularly used by residents in this district.

- (d) Provided by the County Council. Treatment readily accepted by all these sufferers. Council provided free fares in necessitous cases. A decrease of these cases.

## PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) *General*. Four Nursing Associations render this. A complete Nursing Service is now available for all throughout the Council's area.

(b) *Infectious Diseases*. Scarlet Fever, Enteric and Diphtheria are nursed in the Council's Isolation Hospital. Measles, as in above *general cases*. No special provision is made. Council assists in the supply when deemed advisable.

*Midwives*. Four practise in the Council's area. No subsidy is made by this Local Authority. They are supported by Nursing Associations existing in and just outside this area.

*Maternal Mortality*. Arrangements for investigation of these cases are exercised by the County Council.

## REGISTRATION OF MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

There are none. No application has been made.

There was no maternal mortality during 1937.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Free Bacteriological Examination of all material is provided by the Council for Medical Practitioners within their district, at the Yorkshire Clinical Laboratory, Harrogate. The Council also gives free examination of Sputum at their Laboratory at Scarborough.

In addition to these arrangements, free Anti-Toxin and Serums for treatment of necessitous cases are granted by the Council.

Numerous samples of drinking water were submitted to the Council's Public Analyst at Middlesbrough and Yorks. Clinical Laboratory, Harrogate for bacteriological examinations. Other material has been sent during the year for analysis (milk).

### LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

There are no local acts or local orders.

### ADOPTIVE ACTS.

(a) Public Health Act, Amendment Act, 1890, Part III (as mentioned in section 50 of such act), became operative on the 30th April, 1921.

(b) Public Health Act, 1925. Certain sections applicable to Rural Districts of Part II to IV of the Public Health Act, 1925, became operative on 1st March, 1926.

### BYE-LAWS.

Dated 28th February, 1924. Allowed by the Ministry of Health on the 2nd May, 1924.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. WATER.

Eleven Townships comprise the area of the Council.

**The piped supplies are :—**

1. Hutton Conyers, supplied by springs and Rams.
2. Melmerby, do do do
3. Wath, Bore-hole. do Engine.
4. Middleton Quernhow, Borehole (privately owned), do. Engine.
5. Rainton. supplied by springs and gravitation.
6. Marton-le-Moor (privately owned) Bore-hole and Engine.
7. Cundall (part of) (privately owned) supplied by springs and Engine.
8. Asenby, private water company's main passes through village.
9. Dishforth the above water main laid by Council into this village.

### **Townships supplied by deep and shallow wells :—**

1. Baldersby, 3 shallow wells, hand pumped, owned by Council, other privately owned wells.

2. Norton Conyers, privately owned hand pumps at scattered houses.

### **PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.**

At the villages of Asenby and Dishforth the supply is from a large main belonging to a Private Water Company which was laid to the Aerodrome at Dishforth.

There now remains only two Townships in this area without a piped supply :—Baldersby and Norton Conyers.

Various attempts have been made to develop a piped water supply for the village of Baldersby with approximately 200 inhabitants, but owing to its isolation from other villages and its low rateable value, no economical scheme can be as yet suggested.

The Company's new water main at Asenby and the Council's at Dishforth have proved to be a welcome development. The supply is copious and of excellent quality. The total hardness is lower than other local piped supplies being 8 to 10 degrees, which renders it valuable for domestic use as well as drinking purposes.

The pressure is also higher than your other village supplies.

Throughout the year both the quality and quantity of all the other supplies were satisfactory. No shortage occurred.

All the deep bores are mostly from the underlying new red sandstone rock. This explains the usually abundant supply and also the constantly very high degree of total hardness in quality.

The service pipes in the villages of Rainton and Melmerby have given over sixty years' service.

Further analyses and Bacteriological Examinations of public pumps and water supplies were made in 1937, to watch their purity. The results were satisfactory, except the old well at Baldersby already alluded to.

### **RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

The inevitably mild pollution of the rivers and streams is reduced to the lowest possible margin by erection of modern sewage tanks and works and long open sewage ditches, passing, often, over a gravel bed, which convey the effluent after treatment.

The townships are too small and scattered to offer any better way to deal with this problem.



Wath has its own sewage works, which operated satisfactorily.

The Melmerby tanks continued to give better treatment of their contents than formerly.

No call arose to consider further action be taken respecting these works.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new sewers were laid or extended.

The village sewer at Rainton with a population of 306 continued to show signs of obstruction. A length was opened and explored. It was found to be completely choked and the pipes to be very unsatisfactory. These were cleaned and relaid.

The Council are acting on the advice of a consulting Civil Engineer.

The Engineer's first plan for a completely new sewerage scheme and its modern treatment was estimated to cost approximately £3000. Such a charge on this small village was at once seen to be prohibitive.

A modified plan was then called for. A second scheme of £1700 was submitted to the Council wherein a part of the old system remained.

Though nothing has yet been decided upon, this sewer cannot possibly be allowed to remain in its present obstructive state. It does empty itself in dry weather, but still partly fails to do so after a heavy rain.

The Council fully realise their responsibility and are most anxious to carry it out as soon as a ever practical scheme can be devised, and one this township can shoulder the cost of.

The Asenby sewage ditch functioned satisfactorily as the result of constant attention.

The sewers, ditches and tanks received regular attention and the results were satisfactory.

Some minor defects in the Council's drains received prompt attention.

The Council's other drains and sewers again worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Privies exist practically everywhere. The difficulty in pushing the conversion of these abominations to the water carriage system has been the limited water supplies usually found in a scattered

rural area ; also the lack of sufficient pressure in some of the village water supplies in force. Where possible the Council are working on the plan to replace this loathsome and antiquated method, and where water is not sufficient in volume or pressure, Pail Closets are put in to alleviate this objection. Ashpits are covered in, made less in size, and demolished wherever possible.

### SCAVENGING.

There is no organised system of scavenging in the area. At present, each occupier is compelled to carry out his own. Where more than one occupier shares an ashpit, trouble frequently arises as to the person responsible to cleanse it. They refuse to work in rotation or co-jointly. Arable fields in the proximity provide the only suitable reception for the material.

Appeals have been made to the Council to deal with the collection and destruction of refuse. The matter has been again fully considered and is recognised as being important to be dealt with. Two difficulties present themselves—to find a suitable tip, also to obtain one contractor to undertake the whole area, which is not really a big matter.

Tenders have been asked for in the press. None offered to do the area.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

None exist.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Many premises have been inspected. Defects have been remedied. Sometimes pressure was needed upon the owners of tenant occupied houses. No relaxation has been allowed. Cowbyres have also been regularly inspected, and the premises of Milk Vendors and Dairy Men. The slaughter-houses have been frequently visited. Food and Fish Carts, which are very prevalent in the area, have also been examined, though difficult to inspect, owing to their short stay in each township.

No prominent case of a nuisance was found, or had to be dealt with.

Four cases of overcrowding continue.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

These pests were not found and no action was necessary.



## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT (ANNUAL) 1937.

### RECORD OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT OF WATH, N.R. YORKS., 1937.

- (a) Number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year :—
- |  |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Houses inspected   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 176 |
| Defective  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33  |
| Other inspections  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 297 |
| Nuisances found and reported   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31  |
| Number of houses reported for closing and waiting to be closed                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14  |
| Number of houses reported for closing and as not reasonably fit for habitation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14  |
- (b) Number of Notices served during the year 1937 :—
- |           |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Informal  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31 |
| Statutory | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
- (c) Result of the service of such Notices :—
- All defects remedied.
- No action taken on Statutory Notice.

### COWSHEDS.

A higher standard is being appreciated and attempted, but progress is slow owing in some cases to shortage of assistance.

Two cases of dirty cows were reported by the C.C. Veterinary Inspector when the licencees were gravely warned and urged to give closer attention to this requirement.

One cowbyre in two sections has been condemned and plans for a new building called for embodying more modern requirements. Failure to meet this the revocation of licence must follow. This is an important case as production and distribution of milk forms the full time occupation of the occupier.

Large quantities of milk is collected daily in the area in proper receptacles and dispatched to large towns.

Constant attention has been given to see that the requirements of the order are being carried out.

The conditions specially are cleanliness of the cattle. The latter is the most difficult to obtain but it is satisfactory to be able to report that it is being more willingly recognised by the owners that close and continuous attention to this matter is necessary if clean milk is to be obtained. Cleanliness of persons milking is not so fully acknowledged as it should be but it is gradually improving.

The number of cowkeepers is 60.

There are no public dairies in the district.

### SEWERS.

No sewers have been laid or extended and none have given serious trouble.

The sewage ditches and tanks have been regularly cleaned out. Owing to the Rainton Ditch being considerably choked with soil through being trodden in with cattle an arrangement was come to wherein the Council agree to pay part cost of thoroughly cleaning out throughout its full length. This work has been done.

The proposed new sewage scheme for Rainton has not been proceeded with on account of the heavy cost on the small rateable value.

A scheme has since been prepared by Mr. D. H. Moore, Civil Engineer, of Scarborough, involving an outlay of nearly £3000, and later a modified one of £1700.

These are now under consideration.

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The number of Slaughter Houses, as previously reported, is 2.

One has been unused for some time.

Visits have been frequently made and on all occasions conditions have been entirely satisfactory and the cattle killed of an excellent quality. It has not been necessary to condemn any carcase for disease.

### FOOD VANS.

These vans are inspected when on their rounds and nothing has called for action. The vehicles now used in distribution are more suited for the purpose, being closed vans.

This trade appears to be increasing.

### WATER SUPPLIES.

The sources of water supply are as before reported, viz. :— Two villages still rely on shallow wells, and 8 villages have piped supply.

Considerable attention has been given to water supplies in the matter of purity and many samples have been collected and sent for analysis and report. The result following being the closing of wells where piped supplies were available. Improvements with the purpose of maintaining and improving piped supplies have been carried out following reports of specimens for analysis.

This work is being continued ; periodic examinations are also being established in order to detect any variation of the quality of the water supplied.

Defects developed in two small village reservoirs which fortunately were only slight. These were immediately and permanently repaired, and are standing well.

### ASHPITS AND EARTH CLOSETS.

While there has been no increase in the number of Earth Closets and Ashpits it still remains the predominating method.

Where, however, water under pressure and sewers are available there is a readiness to adopt the water carriage system.

### W.C.'s AND BATHS.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of baths and W.C.'s owing to the number of new houses built where water and sewers were available.

20 new baths and 22 W.C.'s have been added, involving new and improved drainage and others are proposed and will be included in the next year's report.

### SCHOOLS.

Inspection of the day schools has been carried out at intervals and the conditions found to be satisfactory.

The common privies and ashpits still remain to serve one school at Dishforth where water supply under pressure is available.

Other schools, not being so well situated have no alternative but the common privy and ashpit or pan.

Frequent cleaning is done.

The Boy's School at Wath should be provided with water carriage as the water supply and sewerage is available.



## WORKSHOPS.

The 6 registered workshops have been inspected and lime washing required and done.

One workshop (a tailor's) has closed down permanently.

No notices have been necessary.

## HOUSING.

16 more houses are required to complete the Council's programme.

Five new houses have been erected by private owners—None by the Council.

Three cottages were reconstructed under the Rural Workers' Act.

## OVERCROWDING ACT, 1935.

Further repeat inspections have been made under this head and proposals have been made for providing accommodation for cases unable to procure same.

Five overcrowded families remain to be dealt with by means of new houses.

In all 176 houses were inspected, 7 of which were found to be overcrowded as reported elsewhere.

Some over-crowding cases have been remedied by removal.

Five remain to be dealt with and 16 more are required to meet the needs of the district due for demolition and closure.

No bed bugs were discovered.

Five cases of over-crowding still continue owing to the difficulty of obtaining larger houses.

No houses have been built by the Council.

A number of houses have been renovated and improved some with grant from the Housing (Rural Worker's) Act.

				New houses.	Old Houses.
Baths provided	...	...	...	3	3
W.C.'s	...	...	...	3	13
New Drains	...	...	...	3	18
New Houses built by private					
owners	...	...	...	5	—
By the Council	...	...	...	None.	—

WM. WATSON,  
 Cert. Royal San. Inst.,  
 Woodville,  
 Northallerton.

## PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

There are no offensive trades carried on.

No Common Lodging Houses exist.

## WORKSHOPS AND VAN DWELLINGS.

Tent and Van Dwellings at certain times of the year at the fairs held have proved troublesome. Attempts have been made for the erection of temporary conveniences for the visits of these people. Camping grounds have been restricted.

There are 6 registered work-shops. All have been regularly visited and found satisfactory.

Posters were put on fair grounds warning public not to consume unsafe water near at hand.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

All the Elementary Schools have been consistently inspected. These premises on the whole were found clean and sanitary. Three schools have a water supply. The district Nurses regularly visit all the schools. No structural alterations of any of them was advised during the year.

With the advent of a water main supply at Dishforth, steps have not yet been taken to convert the existing Earth Closets at the Elementary School into water carriage ones, especially as this School was becoming taxed to its full seating capacity, owing to the influx of additional children with the development of the Aerodrome.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

There remain a further 16 houses to be erected, as by the signed requisitions, viz. :—6 at Dishforth ; 6 at Rainton ; and 4 at Hutton Conyers.

The immense amount of building which is taking place at the Aerodrome for the houses and other brick structures there, practically paralysed the other local building operations, owing to the scarcity of available bricklayers. The consequently increased cost of labour and materials added considerably to the difficulty of obtaining contracts approaching those submitted for the recent erection of the Melmerby new houses.



More inclination has been manifest upon the part of owners of old and partly defective houses to avail themselves of the generous assistance offered under the RURAL WORKER'S COTTAGES ACT. The advantages are ever brought to their notice. And persuasion used to make use of this Act.

#### SECTION D.—HOUSING.

##### 1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—*

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	76
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	114
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	14
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	42
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	16
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	11

##### 2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	15
--	----

##### 3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

(a).—Proceedings under sections 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ... ..	13
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil

## (b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- |     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... | 3   |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—           |     |
| (a) | By owners   | 3   |
| (b) | By local authority in default of owners   | Nil |

## (c).—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- |     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders    | Nil |

## (d).—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

- |     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | Nil |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

4. *Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding* :—

- |      |  |  |     |
|------|--|--|-----|
| (a)  | (i)  | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year   | 5   |
|      | (ii)   | Number of families dwelling therein                      | 5   |
|      | (iii)  | Number of persons dwelling therein                       | 36  |
| (b). | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year |  | 2   |
| (c)  | (i)  | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | Nil |
|      | (ii)   | Number of persons concerned in such cases                | Nil |

(d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Nil

(e).—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :—  
Most of the existing rural cottages are too small.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. MILK SUPPLY.

There are no Public Dairies. An increasing number of Milk Cows are kept. Several small vendors in each village. Some of the milk is consumed locally. Most goes into neighbouring towns. Cleanliness, which is rigidly enforced, has shown some improvement. Cow byres have been structurally improved to comply with existing regulations. The standard has become higher in the year, but still leaves much to be desired.

Rigorous inspections of all byres are made. The N.R. County Council officials also inspect the cattle and cowsheds, and reported cases of dirty milch cows (2).

Fewer vendors with larger business should be the Council's ultimate goal to render inspections more frequent and to increase the working capital of the occupiers. Registration sare strictly enforced. Licences are only granted in suitable cases. Owners and occupiers of these premises now realise the full working of the Order, and try to comply with it. Inspections are made at milking and other times.

It has not been necessary for the Council to take action against any registered milk seller.

Number of Registered Cowkeepers—60. A decrease.

No tuberculously infected attendant found.

### MEAT SUPPLY.

There are only two registered slaughter houses in the area. One of them is not used. These have been constantly visited and found scrupulously clean.

No diseased portion or whole of any carcase was found and none were condemned.



They regularly kill good quality of cattle. Vehicles conveying and selling meat have been examined in the streets. No action has been necessary. Meat Shops have also been inspected. No breach of the Order has been discovered.

Registered Slaughter-houses—2.

### ADULTERATION.

This Council is not a Local Authority for enforcing Acts and Regulations of Adulteration of foods.

Bacteriological examinations of milk were carried out by this Council.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTION AND OTHER DISEASES.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Cases Notified.</i>		<i>Admitted to Isolation Hospital.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Scarlet Fever	...	1	1	None
Small Pox	...	None	None	None
Enteric ...	...	1	1	None
Diphtheria	...	2	2	None
Pneumonia	...	6	None	None

The attack rate of Scarlet Fever notifications per 1000 population was 0.4.

There was a decrease of Infectious Diseases as compared with the previous year.

There were no new cases of Encephalitis Lethargica and none of Polio Myelitis. Influenza was absent.

No cases of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia. Vaccination efficiently performed—more objections obtained. Hospital accommodation in Council's Isolation Hospital more than met the demand for admission. Serums and anti-toxins are supplied when required.

All infected articles and clothing were disinfected by Council's Steam Disinfector.

Disinfection officer personally disinfected all infected premises.

The Council's Motor Fever Ambulance removed all infectious cases to Isolation Hospital.

All scarlet fever cases are admitted to Isolation Hospital. The Council provides free Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

## RATS.

These pests continue to flourish each year. No organised steps are apparently taken to deal with this menace and nuisance, whereas the adjoining West Riding Authorities make a vigorous attack on them at all times and especially so in Rat Week.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmon- ary.		Non- pulmonary.		Pulmon- ary.		Non- pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

Number of cases in Register at end of year, 1937, were 4, i.e. Pulmonary, 2 ; Non-Pulmonary, 2.

Notification of these cases has improved.

No case of a Tuberculous Employee in the milk trade was notified or discovered.

No action was necessary in the year under the Public Health Acts.

## CAUSES OF ALL DEATHS, 1937.

From Zymotic Diseases—One—Measles.  
(Comprising Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea under 2 years of age).



From all other causes :—

					M	F
Cancer (malignant disease)	...	...	...	...	1	1
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	5	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	0	1
Central Nervous Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	0	2
Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	0
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	6	2
Violence	...	...	...	...	1	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	0	1
					—	—
					16	9
					—	—

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

### 1. INSPECTION OF WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>
Factories—None Exist	—	—
Workshops—6 Registered.	13	—
Workplaces—None Exist	—	—

### 2. DEFECTS FOUND IN WORKSHOPS.

No serious defects found. Lime washing when requested was executed.

The Council's consideration of my suggestions during the year was appreciated.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. CARTER MITCHELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

